



NIVYTAA SURESKUMAR

Sustainability & Climate Change Policy Analyst Intern



CONSERVATION HALTON (CH)

- Halton Region Conservation Authority (HRCA), created under the Conservation Authorities Act (CAA) of Ontario
- **Role:** Protects, manages, and enhances the natural environment within its jurisdiction.
- **Focus Areas:** Watersheds, Niagara Escarpment, local water systems
- **Key Goals:** Ensure clean water, prevent floods, preserves and maintains biodiversity and ecological health

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PROJECTS

- Analyzed policies to integrate sustainability
- Educated Senior Leadership Team and staff on sustainability concepts
- Created 6 new policies: **Sustainable Procurement, ESG, Environmental, Social, Governance, & Informant Protection**
- Collaborated on overall strategy with fellow interns

ROLE & SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

My Focus: Analyzing existing policies to identify opportunities for integrating sustainability more effectively.

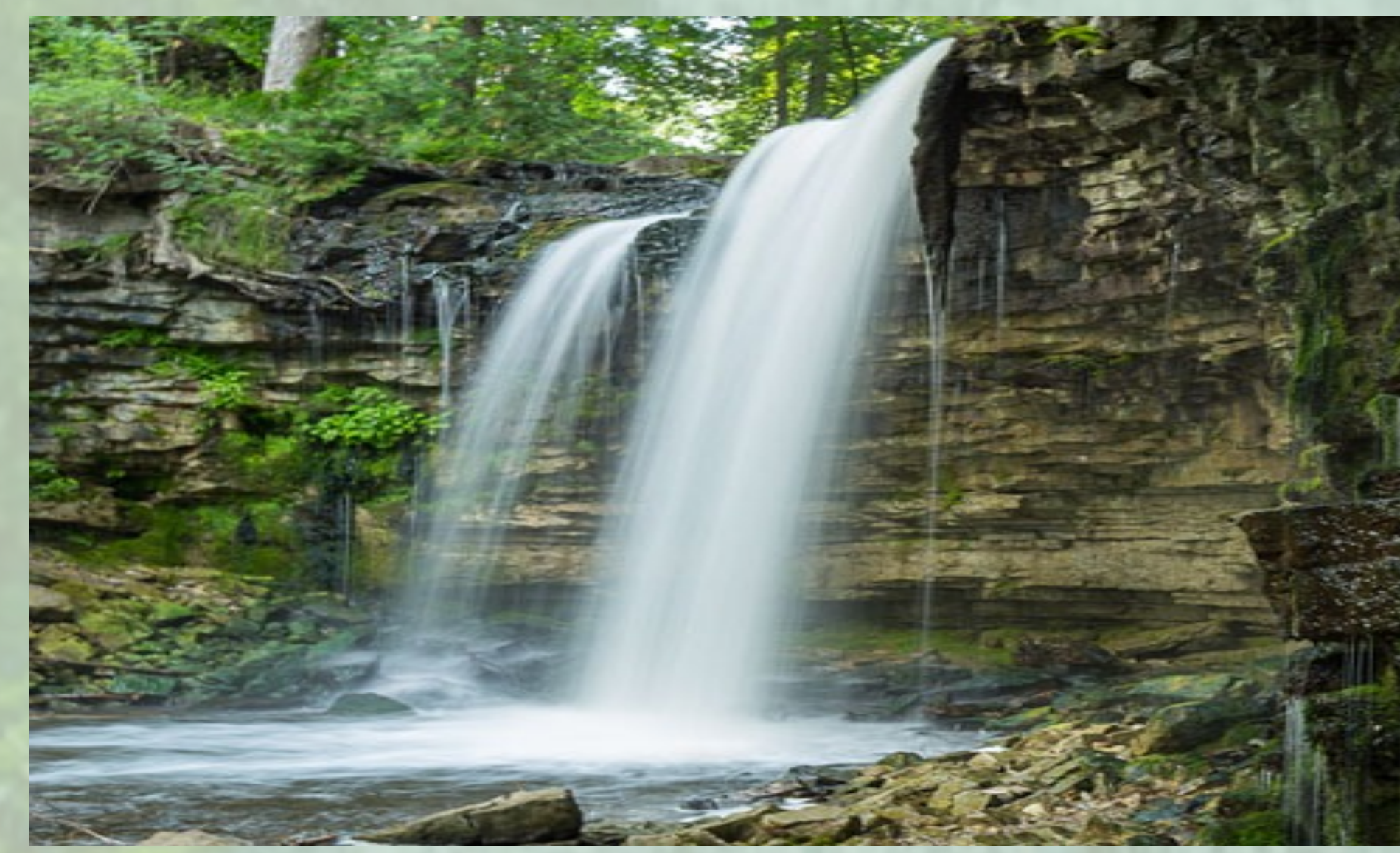
Objective: Identify gaps and opportunities for enhancing sustainability within the organization.

Challenges:

- CH engaged in sustainable practices but lacked consistent terminology
- Absence of a cohesive framework to capture and unify sustainability efforts

Task:

- Clarify the concept of sustainability for the organization
- Ensure comprehensive incorporation of sustainability into policies and practices
- Create policies to include sustainability



INSIGHTS & SKILLS GAINED

- Writing Skills
- Strategic Planning
- Critical Thinking
- Project Management

KEY TAKEAWAY: Sustainability Integration

- Recognized the importance of a unified framework and clear terminology for integrating sustainability, which improved policy development, aligned with CH's strategic plans, and enhanced organizational effectiveness.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- **Sustainability Leadership Awards:** Attended the awards ceremony and celebrated Conservation Halton winning an award for its innovative sustainability efforts.
- **Intern Hike:** Encountered CH's main bird, the Turkey Vulture, during a hike, highlighting its significance to the area.

